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LETTER DATED 13 JANUARY 1993 FROM THE CHARGE D'AFFAIRES A.I. OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF SENEGAL TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the text of a communiqué from the Government of the Republic of Senegal concerning the withdrawal of Senegalese troops from Liberia.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mame Balla SY
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

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Annex

Communiqué from the Government of the Republic of Senegal on the withdrawal of Senegalese troops from Liberia

"True to its commitment always to strive for the promotion and defence of peace and security wherever they are under threat, Senegal sought active involvement together with other States members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) in seeking a just and durable peace in Liberia.

"It did so in the conviction that such a peace would be achieved by a settlement negotiated by all the parties to the conflict that for three years has been tearing this fraternal country apart.

"It was in this context and at the explicit request of the National Patriotic Front of Liberia (NPFL) that our country sent troops to participate, in a spirit of strict neutrality, in the mission of the ECOWAS Cease-fire Monitoring Group (ECOMOG).

"It was in the same spirit that it participated actively in all the meetings held to advance the cause of peace in Liberia.

"Despite numerous obstacles to a political settlement constantly created by one of the parties to this conflict - in the event, Charles Taylor's NPFL - and despite the loss of 14 of its soldiers, fallen on the field of honour in the service of peace, Senegal nevertheless continued to make considerable sacrifices in order to assist the fraternal people of Liberia to restore peace and national concord.

"In parallel with the presence of its soldiers on the spot, Senegal made active endeavours at the diplomatic level in concert with the other members of ECOWAS for the effective involvement of the United Nations in the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict in Liberia.

"The results of this activity included the adoption by the Security Council of its resolution 788 (1992) of 19 November 1992 by which the Secretary-General of the United Nations was requested to dispatch a Special Representative to Liberia, thereby expressing the willingness of the United Nations to participate actively in the search for a peaceful solution to the Liberian crisis.

"Given this new situation and in light of internal dictates, the Government has decided to withdraw the Senegalese contingent of ECOMOG, which has accomplished the mission entrusted to it most effectively. As before, it remains intent on striving for a just and durable political solution to the crisis being endured by the fraternal people of Liberia, in accordance with the Yamoussoukro IV Accord as reaffirmed at Geneva."